



The Quality Chicken People

ALLEN HARIM FOODS, LLC

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July 6, 2012

Glenn F. Davis
Program Manager, Surface Water Discharges Section
State of Delaware - DNREC
89 Kings Highway
Dover, DE 19901

SENT VIA CERTIFIED MAIL
#7011 0470 0000 2370 1748

RE: COMPLIANCE SAMPLING & INSPECTION RESPONSE
18752 Harbeson Road
Harbeson, DE 19951
BPE Project: AL-130-18

Dear Mr. Davis:

This letter is in response to your correspondence dated June 4, 2012.

Based on the letter, DNREC has noted the following deficiencies/observations and Allen Harim Foods, LLC (Allen Harim) has provided the following responses to those deficiencies/observations:

Found that buffers used for pH calibration had exceeded their expiration date. Allen's Harim personnel immediately replaced the old buffers with new stock (they know that date was close and had ordered new buffer...but failed to check recently and replace).

Allen Harim immediately updated the procedure for pH calibration. Each day, when the buffer solution is changed, the lot # and the expiration date of the buffer are written on the beaker.

"Preparing Food for our Families"

The potential for storm water discharges at Outfalls 002 and 003 was again discussed, and it was noted that the monthly Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMR's) are always checked as "No Discharge" for both outfalls. Allen Harim was able to produce only minimal documented evidence that these storm water outfalls never had any discharge; if there were inspections of these outfalls before, during, or after rain events, there was little or no written documentation that any inspections had been completed. An inspection sheet is required, that will require operators, supervisors, and/or managers to sign-off on an actual outfall inspection before, during, and after any rain event to document any discharge or non-discharge. If there is discharge, Part IB.2 of your NPDES permit requires that this discharge must be sampled within the conditions specified, and analyzed for the parameters indicated.

Allen Harim is aware of the requirement for sampling if a discharge occurs at Outfall 002 and/or 003. As discussed during the Compliance, Sampling & Inspection (CSI), Allen Harim has completed a number of tasks to ensure compliance with this requirement:

- Installation of locked gates to allow for easy access to the outfalls;
- Removal of overgrowth to allow easy access to the outfalls;
- A survey was performed on the property boundaries associated with Outfalls 002 and 003. As noted during the inspection,
 - The property boundary associated with Outfall 003 is almost at the swale adjacent to the railroad track.
 - Based on observation of the groundcover, terrain and the known property boundary, it is assumed that there will never be a discharge from Outfall 002. Please note that Outfall 002 is still monitored.

As observed during the CSI, Allen Harim keeps a daily log in a spiral bound book. In the log book, each rain event is documented. The following information is noted in the log book and it is highlighted yellow (for ease of referencing rain events):

- The time the rain starts;

- The inspections of Outfalls 002 and 003 during the rain event to determine whether there is a discharge or not;
- The time the rain stopped;
- The inspections of Outfalls 002 and 003 after the rain has stopped to determine whether there is a discharge or not and whether sampling is required and the documentation of this inspection;
- The initials of the person who did the documentation;
- The Waste Water Manager signs off on the log book daily after his review.

Allen Harim has updated their written procedure for storm events to ensure all information is being documented and has reviewed the requirements for rain events with each of the waste water operators at the facility.

The ground areas around the “Live Hold” station are not blacktopped and are only stoned. During any heavy rain event or in the case where a sump may plug up or become inoperable in this area, runoff rain water will travel over the stoned area prior to being collected at the 002 or 003 Outfall sumps. There is a strong potential for this runoff from the Live Hold area to be highly contaminated, and is being absorbed into the stoned area and into the ground. DNREC personnel from the Surface Water Discharges Section will be in contact with representatives from Allen’s Harim Foods, LLC to discuss sampling of any run-off water coming from this live hold area, and the potential for contamination of the ground water. It is highly recommended that the areas around the live hold section are blacktopped to allow the storm water that may be contaminated to be able to flow directly to the 002 and/or 003 sumps for pumping to the treatment plant, and eliminate this potential for contamination to the ground water.

As you are aware, Allen Harim purchased this facility in September 2011, and since has established a rigorous maintenance schedule for this area. As observed during the CSI, Allen Harim is committed to keeping the area clean. Allen Harim is currently evaluating the ground area around “Live Hold” station.

It was again noted during this inspection, that the old “Anaerobic Pond” is no longer used as part of the Process Wastewater Treatment Plant, and is basically just being used as a permanent storage lagoon (surface impoundment). It is obvious that the pond liner is in disrepair and “bubbling up and surfacing” in many areas ... most likely from trapped anaerobic gasses, and at times there is a real odor issue. Allen's Harim Foods, LLC cannot continue to utilize this surface impoundment as a permanent storage facility for poultry process and sanitary waste. Please reference the attachment to this letter, which shows some highlighted regulations from Title 7 Natural Resources & Environmental Control, Delaware Administrative Code, 7103 Guidance and Regulations Governing the Land Treatment of Wastes; these areas address sludge storage and the requirement for a sludge storage permit ... etc.

Allen Harim is evaluating the old “Anaerobic Pond” to determine its viability. As noted during the CSI, the TOP pond liner has some tears and bubbling. Please note that there have been no odor issues associated with the old “Anaerobic Pond” since taking ownership. Within 60 days, Allen Harim will establish a plan for the old “Anaerobic Pond”, a copy of this plan will be forward to your attention.

Operations & Maintenance Manuals (individual) are available for the equipment utilized in the Wastewater Treatment Plant, however, nothing is very organized and extremely hard to document. The plant must develop a systematic and formal Operations and Maintenance Manual that is reviewed on a regular basis, and contains documented evidence that the manual is being reviewed/updated, and approved. This item has been discussed during several annual inspections, and must be addressed.

Allen Harim is in the process of compiling the information for the completion of an Operations and Maintenance Manual. Attached is the Table of Contents for the Operations and Maintenance Manual.

Glenn F. Davis
July 6, 2012
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Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concern.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Henry Quatham", written in a cursive style.

Henry Quatham
Maintenance/Engineering Manager

Attachments: Table of Contents for Operations and Maintenance Manual

cc: Mike Sause, Allen Harim Foods, LLC
BPE Files



Harbeson Operations & Maintenance Manual
18752 Harbeson Road
Harbeson, DE

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FIGURE

Figure 1 PROCESS FLOW DIAGRAM